Development of Flower Plants, Medicinal Plants and Herbs in Andhra Pradesh

1595. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Central Government's consideration to conduct field survey in Andhra Pradesh forests for the development of flower plants, medicinal plants and herbs; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Botanical Survey of India has been conducting floristic surveys on a continuing basis. Hitherto 68 surveys including ethnobotanical studies in the tribal areas of 10 districts of Andhra Pradesh have been conducted. Herbarium specimens of plants of Andhra Pradesh preserved in the herbarium at Coimbatore amounts to 20,000 specimens. Total number of species of plants collected amounts to 2,000 species. Economic and medicinal plants amount to 500 species.

Disbursement of Loans in Andhra Pradesh

1596. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the share of Andhra Pradesh in the total loan disbursements by nationalised banks and public financial institutions during the past three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that share of Andhra Pradesh is very low; and

(c) if so, what remedial steps have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The share of Andhra Pradesh in total outstanding advances of public sector banks at the end of December 1985, December, 1986 and December, 1987 was 6.9 per cent, 7.4 per cent and 7.5 per cent respectively. In the total amount disbursed by all financial institutions during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87, the share of Andhra Pradesh was 9.2 per cent, 8.3 per cent and 7.7 per cent respectively. With a view to encouraging industrialisation AFIs provide asistance on concessional terms to units set up in the backward areas.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Practice of Female infanticide in Rajasthan

1597. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in certain parts of Rajasthan there is a practice of female infanticide;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report and demand of a CBI probe into the allegation against one Brijendra Singh of Bayana in Rajasthan;

(c) if so, whether Government have called for full facts from Rajasthan Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The Government of Rajasthan have informed that there are no reports with the State Government about practice of female infanticide.